

John Porter
Nov. 13. 1813.

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Sir 21118

With real regret I take the liberty to acquaint you with the death of Mr Thomas Berket, my revered and lamented partner. In him I have lost a true friend, whose honesty of heart and uprightness in all his dealings had endeared him not only to his immediate connections, but to all to whom he had the honour to be known. He is gone full of age and full of respect. Longer than forty years he had the honour of the appointment of Bookseller and Stationer to H. R. H. The Prince Regent, during the whole of which long period, it was his pleasure and his pride, so to conduct himself as to merit the approbation of his Royal and beneficent Master, and the esteem of all the Establishment.

Some years since his age and infirmities rendering him incapable of business, the management of it devolved upon me, as his partner, and it has been my study to tread in his steps and to emulate his conduct.

I therefore, Sir, most respectfully and earnestly, entreat you on the behalf of my family, as well as of myself, to be pleased to honour me with a continuance of this appointment, which I held in conjunction with my late venerable friend; to fulfil the duties of which no exertion on my part shall ever be wanting.

I have the honour to remain Sir
with the greatest Respect
Your most grateful & obed^t Serv^t
John Porter.

W^m D^r G^{ent}
John M^r Mahon
Esq. Esq. Esq.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in approximately 12 horizontal lines across the page.]